

Attorney's Docket: 1998CH017
Serial No.: 09/744,784
Art Unit 1751

REMARKS

Claims 12-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 12 has been amended to clarify and correct the indefiniteness. Applicants respectfully request the rejection be withdrawn and claims 12-24 be allowed.

Claims 12-15, 17-19 and 22-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kayane et al. (4,548,612). Kayane et al. (4,548,612) does not teach the use of biuret, the current application teaches the use of biuret as essential for the stability of the reactive dye compositions. Based on the amendment to claim 12 above, Applicants' respectfully requests the rejection be withdrawn and claims 12-15, 17-19 and 22-24 be allowed.

Claims 16 and 20-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kayane et al. (4,548,612). Kayane et al. (4,548,612) neither mentions nor suggests any biuret-containing solutions of reactive dyes, but rather teaches to produce certain dry compositions. Applicants' respectfully requests the rejection be withdrawn and claims 16 and 20-21 be allowed.

As the total number of claims does not exceed the number of claims originally paid for, no fee is believed due. However if an additional fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any fee deficiency to Deposit Account No. 03-2060.

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Reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

- 12. (Twice amended) An aqueous reactive-dye composition (P) which is an aqueous solution, comprising [which is an aqueous solution of] :
- (R) at least one reactive dye which contains one or more fiber reactive groups of a halogen-substituted heterocyclic group selected from the group consisting of halogentriazine or halogenpyrimidine, or an open-chain group selected from the group consisting of: β -sulphatoethylsulphonyl, β -sulphatoethylaminosulphonyl, β -sulphatopropionamido, β -chloroethylsulphonyl, vinylsulphonyl or acryloylaminosulphonyl,
- (B) biuret,
- water,
- and optionally
- (F) at least one or more formulating additive[,
- characterized by a content of
- (B) biuret. –].

17. (Amended) A method for dyeing substrates dyeable with reactive dyes comprising the step[s] of contacting
- [providing a composition (P) according to claim 12;
- providing a substrate dyeable with reactive dyes; and
- dyeing] said substrate with a dyeing liquor that contains said composition (P) according to Claim 12.

18. (Amended) A method for printing substrates printable with reactive dyes comprising the step[s] of contacting
- [providing a composition (P) according to claim 12;
- providing a substrate printable with reactive dyes; and

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printing] said substrate with a printing composition that contains said composition (P) according to claim 12.

21. (Amended) A method for dyeing substrates dyeable with reactive dyes comprising the step[s] of contacting
[providing a stock solution according to claim 20;
providing a substrate dyeable with reactive dyes; and
dyeing] said substrate with a dyeing liquor that contains said stock solution[s] according to claim 20.

Add new claims as follows:

25. (new) A method according to Claim 18, wherein the printing composition is a printing paste or a printing ink.

26. (new) An aqueous reactive dye composition (P) according to claim 12 with a viscosity less than 1000 cP.